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SIGNATURE:

Dona B. Reantree

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

Ann Union
Henri Moereels
Lydie Meheus

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

Serial No.:

Atty. Dkt. No: 11362.0031.NPUS00
INNS:031

Filed: December 21, 2000

For: PEPTIDES DESIGNED FOR THE
DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF
RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing is a 49-page patent specification with 22 claims and an abstract and 5 Figures on 8 sheets

The specification and drawings constitute the application of Ann Union (Savooien 15, B-9880 Aalter, BELGIUM), Henri Moereels (Sneeuwbesstraat 71, B-2180 Ekeren, BELGIUM), and Lydie Meheus (Gontrode Heirweg 120, B-9820 Merelbeke, BELGIUM) for the captioned invention.

Please note that this application is filed without an inventor Declaration and Assignment, or a Power of Attorney. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f), the Applicant requests the Patent and Trademark Office to accept this application and accord a serial number and filing date as of the date this application is deposited with the U.S. Postal Service for Express Mail. Further, the Applicant requests that the NOTICE OF MISSING PARTS-FILING DATE GRANTED pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(f) be sent to the undersigned Applicant's representative.

Should any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 to 1.21 be required for any reason in connection with this application the Commissioner is authorized to deduct said fees from Howrey Simon Arnold & White, LLP Deposit Account No. 01-2508/11362.0031.NPUS00/KAM.

Please date stamp and return the enclosed postcard to evidence receipt of this application.

Please forward any reply to this communication directly to our Houston office for docketing purposes. The mailing address and the physical address for courier are indicated below, and the Houston fax number is 713.787.1440.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: December 21, 2000